



The Fly-By

A Quarterly Newsletter of the
Southwest Region
April, 2014



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The Fly-By is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter. Deadline for submissions are:

- 1Q – 20 December
- 2Q – 20 March
- 3Q – 20 June
- 4Q – 20 September

Text may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a text file or, if generated in a word processor, saved in .RTF format).

Images must be in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 by 900 pixels.

Credits: In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

1. The article's author,
2. Photographer, and
3. Any person mentioned in the article.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

awoodgate@austin.rr.com

Message size limit: 20 MB

News Highlights From Around the Region

In the fourth quarter of 2013, SWR continued to advise and support its member wings in the accomplishment of their mission.

To avoid errors or omissions, I've asked each wing PAO to send in a summary of notable events. They are posted below in the order in which they were received, with my thanks.

New Mexico Wing was a key participant at the State Legislature's Military & Veterans Appreciation Day. A cadet color guard presented during the formal ceremony, and NM National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Andrew Salas thanked the cadets and CAP in his remarks. Cadets and senior members visited a number of legislators throughout the day. Because of NM lawmakers' support, the NM Wing's state budget was increased by \$60,000 to \$273,100. The budget increase is targeted to support NM Wing's in-school program.

Arizona Wing conducted emergency services training, responded to requests for assistance, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and rendered community service. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Arkansas Wing conducted emergency services training, responded to requests for assistance, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and rendered community service. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Louisiana Wing conducted emergency services training, responded to requests for assistance, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and rendered community service. Squadron members met regularly, and

unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Oklahoma Wing conducted emergency services training, responded to requests for assistance, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and rendered community service. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Texas Wing conducted emergency services training, responded to requests for assistance, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and rendered community service. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

To everyone, our congratulations. 🇺🇸

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Safety is Priority One

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/>

Have you taken the **Operational Risk Management** Basic, Intermediate and Advanced online courses? Please visit: http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety_education/

- Safety must be on every CAP member's mind, at all times.
- Before engaging in any CAP activity, a safety briefing must be conducted.
- Don't miss the Safety Specialty Track training posted at <http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety-newsletters-2248/>
- ***Safety is our Number One Priority.***

How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter

▪ ***Which Articles Are Best?***

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

▪ ***Do I Submit Photos?***

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

▪ ***If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions***

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: awoodgate@austin.rr.com. 🇺🇸



Southwest Region, April, 2014

LESA: The ES Training Solution in Our Own Back Yard

by Col. Joe Cavett, CAP, Oklahoma Wing

OKLAHOMA CITY – Most Civil Air Patrol members are frustrated by how difficult it is for them to receive the training they need in order to do the job they want. This is true of virtually every aspect of Civil Air Patrol. In Southwest Region we may not have solutions to every problem CAP has to offer, but the LoneStar Emergency Services Academy (LESA) offered in Texas makes Emergency Services training easier and quicker.

Many CAP squadron and wing commanders have lived through training and qualification nightmares. These issues start at the local level, where units may not have any qualified personnel available to conduct the training. And sometimes, when some are available, they'd rather do a favor for their friends than make sure that their friends know the job well. Then, if some are available and willing to do the job right, they might have trouble getting the information loaded in eServices and pushed through the approval process.

When there are no local training resources available, members must rely on group or wing training activities. These usually have good trainers, but often the trainer/student ratio is so high that instructors need to work with too many students at once. This slows the training process and, in the end, getting qualified in a mission specialty spreads over several exercises.

Taking several exercises for qualification isn't necessarily a bad thing, but if the process can't be finished in under two years, the student will need to be retrained in those areas that were signed off more than two years prior, and this becomes painful and frustrating. Many members prefer the "total solution" of traveling across the country to a national ES school. This is OK, but it takes time and money to travel long distances, and if there is an issue with any of the training or documentation it can be very hard to track down the person who can fix the problem.

Fortunately, we have an excellent alternative right here in Southwest Region at LESA. This is a full-curriculum ES school that offers training for all mission specialty areas, is recognized as equivalent to other schools offered at the national level, and fulfills the requirements to wear the National Cadet Special Activity ribbon. But make no mistake: although it is a recognized NCSA, LESA's ES training is up to FEMA standards in every way, and it is a very serious school.

Many Oklahoma Wing members have attended LESA. The training they received has been exceptional and they have proved fully mission-capable when they came home. LESA has no shortcuts or pencil whipping: students must be able to do the job to earn their qualifications. Of all Oklahoma Wing students who attended LESA, the wing never had an issue with paperwork or documentation when they got home. But should there be a problem, the wing can resolve it with a simple phone call.

Members who want to get trained for an ES specialty at one time, but don't want to deal with the hassle or uncertainty of travelling across the nation to do so, they should be encouraged to make the trip to Big Sandy, Texas to attend LESA. There is no better place to train, and every student will be trained the right way. LESA is an excellent opportunity for those seeking a one-stop high-intensity training environment to fulfill their training needs. 🇺🇸

(NOTE: Col. Joe Cavett is the Oklahoma Wing commander – Editor)

The Fly-By, S

Arkansas Wing Finds Missing Airplane in Western Arkansas

by Maj. Blake Sasse, CAP, Arkansas Wing

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – On Feb. 11, 2014, an Arkansas Wing aircrew found the site where a light aircraft that had been reported missing on Jan. 31 went down west of Glenwood, in Montgomery County, Ark. The CAP aircraft from the 95th Composite Squadron (Texarkana) was crewed by Lt. Col. Loren Ainsworth, Maj. Ed Goodman, and Capt. Carol Collins. The plane was spotted at 4:05 p.m. Based on this information, an Arkansas State Police helicopter went to the crash site and confirmed that it was the aircraft flown by 34-year old Jake Harrell. Ground team personnel soon determined that he had not survived.

Harrell, a part-time pilot for the Arkansas Forestry Commission since 2005, had been flying a regularly-scheduled wildfire detection flight when he failed to check in after having communicated with Arkansas Forestry Commission dispatchers. Harrell served in the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing, and was an officer with the North Little Rock Police Department.

Flying conditions were favorable for the use of fixed-wing aircraft on only 4 out of the 12 days of the search due to several significant snow and ice events along with low cloud layers that made flying in this mountainous part of western Arkansas difficult. All nine aircraft assigned to the Arkansas Wing participated in the search, flying nearly 90 sorties and over 130 hours. Arkansas Wing ground teams participated on the first full day of the search and the Wing's mobile command trailer was used on the final day.

The Civil Air Patrol was one of many organizations that took part in this search, which was led by the Arkansas Forestry Commission. The Arkansas Wing Director of Emergency Services, Lt. Col. Bobby Allison III, who was on scene at the command post in Mena for 9 days, said, "This was one of the best inter-agency events I've ever been a part of. The cooperation and communication between everyone involved was outstanding."

Other participating agencies were the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, U.S. Forest Service, Arkansas National Guard, Arkansas State Police, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, and local police and fire departments from Montgomery, Polk, and Scott Counties.

Lt. Col. Allison remarked, "Our aircrews and staff did an outstanding job, and the other agencies involved were impressed by and thankful for their efforts." 🇺🇸

Top: (L-R) 1st Lt. Rossell Bradley and Maj. David Williams plan a search flight.

Left: Lt. Col. Lyle Melton works the radios. (Photos: Maj. Blake Sasse)





Top: (L-R) Cadet Capt. Jessica Parsons, Cadet Col. William Craig, Cadet 1st Lt. Klara Olcott, Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons, Senator Jeff Flake, Col. Brian Ready and Lt. col. Adam Such. *(Photo: Senator Flake's Office)*

Below: Congresswoman Krysten Sinema in conversation with the Arizona delegation. *(Photo: Rep. Sinema's Office)*

Arizona Wing's Day on Capitol Hill

by Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – Feb. 27, 2014 was Legislative Day, an annual event during which Civil Air Patrol wing commanders and members travel to Washington to speak with their elected officials at Congress about CAP issues that are important to their Wing and CAP National Headquarters.

Arizona Wing participated in Legislative Day with seven members intent on visiting Arizona's nine Congressional Representatives and both Senators. The day was considered a success as the Arizona Legislative team met their objectives.

Arizona Wing Commander Col. Brian Ready, Wing Legislative Officer Lt. Col. Jim Nova and 388th Composite Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Adam Such were augmented by four cadets: Cadet Col. William Craig from London Bridge Composite Squadron 501, Cadet 1st Lt. Klara Olcott, Cadet Capt. Jessica Parsons and Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons, the last three from the 388th Composite Squadron. Three of these cadets were enrolled in the Civic Leadership Academy, whose curriculum included preparation for Legislative Day. As a Civic Leadership Academy assignment, they set up a meeting with their respective Congress representative and led the conversation, delivering the same message as the rest of the delegation.

A major item they addressed was the Congressional Gold Medal (one of the highest U.S. civilian awards) that Civil Air Patrol is petitioning the Legislative Branch in order to honor CAP members who served during World War II. These original CAP members flew dangerous coastal missions and have been credited with sinking three German U-boats. Today, because of these veterans' advanced age, time is running out for them, making it one of Legislative Day's top priorities to gain support from members of Congress, especially in the House of Representatives. The Senate bill has passed unanimously, but it is stalled in the House of Representatives with more than two-thirds of the votes required to pass.

The delegations brought another issue to their congressmen and congresswomen, specifically the proposed budget for CAP. Because of



sequestration requirements, CAP is doing its part to cut unnecessary spending, and has already trimmed about \$1 million from its budget. In previous years, CAP has asked for \$28-29 million for missions, but this year has lowered its budget to about \$27 million by reducing the number of employees at National Headquarters and better monitoring corporate spending. However, it is expected that the President's budget will reduce this number by an additional million. In meeting with their legislative officials, the delegation explained CAP's cost-cutting measures, stressing that CAP is already functioning on a very tight budget. It is CAP's hope that funding will not be cut from vital programs, suggesting that if the budget is reduced by an additional \$1 million, mission training, cadet orientation flights, counterdrug missions, and cadet activities could be targeted.

Civil Air Patrol is an important asset to the country based on the critical missions it performs, making it a force multiplier. It costs just over \$2,000 per flight-hour for a Black Hawk helicopter to fly a search and rescue mission, but it costs CAP under \$170 an hour to fly the same mission with a Cessna airplane. CAP has participated in several high-profile missions, including being among the first to take aerial photographs after the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers and during natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Ike, and the Oklahoma tornadoes. CAP took 158,000 high-resolution photos for FEMA documenting the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, at a cost of \$181,000. That's just over a dollar per photo. CAP saves around 44 lives a year, 35 of those as a result of CAP cell phone and radar analysis.

Congresswoman Krysten Sinema, the Arizona Representative for District 9 (that includes Tempe, Ahwatukee and parts of Scottsdale and Phoenix) was among the first to be visited on Legislative Day. Later that afternoon, Sinema posted to her Twitter page, "Proud to support the @AZWingCAP & their work to foster leadership & promote aerospace education." Sinema – a Congressional Squadron member – is a strong supporter of CAP. Currently, five out of Arizona's nine representatives are members of CAP's Congressional Squadron.

After meeting with the representatives, the CAP delegation met with both Arizona Senators. Senator Jeff Flake, a member of CAP's Congressional squadron and a supporter of the 388th Composite Squadron, was available for a visit before his return to Arizona. The delegation was also able to meet with Senator John McCain, who was very interested in learning about CAP's progress in obtaining support for the Congressional Gold Medal.

"It was an honor to have Arizona Wing Cadet Officers with us on Capitol Hill. Their enthusiasm and maturity is a credit to our Cadet Program," said Col. Ready.

Legislative Day was an educational experience for the participating cadets. At day's end, the Arizona delegation had been successful in spreading the word of CAP's importance as a national asset to Congressmen and Senators at Capitol Hill.

"The Cadets made quite an impression on the Congressional members and their staff during our visit. It was a positive experience for all involved. I am glad to have them on our Team," said Col. Ready. 🇺🇸

Below: (L-R) Lt. Col. Jim Nova, Lt. Col. Adam Such, Col. Brian Ready, Senator John McCain, Cadet Col. William Craig, Cadet Capt. Jessica Parsons, Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons, and Cadet 1st Clara Olcott. (Photo: Sen. McCain's Office)





Left: The five-cadet team that participated in the Civilian Light Co-Ed Team category (L-R): Cadet Senior Airman Mark Chappell, Cadet Staff Sgt. Bailey Little, Cadet 2nd Lt. Nicholas Martin, Cadet Staff Sgt. Lauren Higdon, and Cadet 2nd Lt. Alexander J. Salazar. (Photo: Maj. Lloyd J. Voights, CAP)

Below: “Spirit” Squadron Aerospace Education Officer 1st Lt. Mary A. Fox competes in the Civilian Lightweight Female category at the Bataan Memorial Death March (Photo courtesy of Mr. Jonathan Fox)

New Mexico Squadron Places Fourth at Bataan Memorial Death March

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. – On March 22, 2014, five cadets and one senior member from Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron placed fourth as a team, and in the middle third of individual competition at the Bataan Memorial Death March held at White Sands Missile Range in Alamogordo.

The five-cadet team – that entered in the Civilian Light Co-ed Team category – placed fourth out of twelve other teams in the same category, turning in a time of 7 hours and 39 minutes. Team members included Cadets 2nd Lt. Alexander J. Salazar and Nicholas R. Martin; Cadets Staff Sgt. Bailey Little and Lauren Higdon; and Cadet Senior Airman Mark Chappell.

The squadron’s aerospace education officer, 1st Lt. Mary A. Fox, entered in the Civilian Lightweight Female category, and placed 458 out of 748 in that category, with a time of 20 minutes per mile. All participating squadron members hiked the full marathon course of 26.2 miles.

The Bataan Memorial Death March was an opportunity for participants to meet and greet survivors of the original Death March at small seminars on the base. The Bataan Death March began on April 9, 1942, when the Imperial Japanese Army forcibly marched between 60,000 and 80,000 American and Filipino soldiers some 80 miles from Mariveles, Bataan to San Fernando, Pampanga, on the Philippine island of Luzon. Approximately 2,500 to 10,000 Filipino and 100 to 650 American prisoners of war died on the march. It is impossible to arrive at an exact estimate, since it is not known how many prisoners escaped and blended in with the civilian population. 🇺🇸





Left: (L-R) Texas Wing Commander Col. Brooks Cima, Group V Commander Col. Frank Eldridge, Cadet 1st Lt. Paul MacGregor, Cadet 2nd Lt. Ethan Sobieski, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jacob Sobieski, Cadet Airman Basic Faith MacGregor, and Squadron Commander Maj. Leonard Sobieski. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Jhanelle Haag, USAF)

Texas Squadron's Reactivation Ceremony on Laughlin AFB

by Maj. Leonard Sobieski, CAP, and Capt. Morgan Montalvo, CAP, Texas Wing

DEL RIO, Texas – On March 23, 2014, Civil Air Patrol reactivated the Laughlin Air Force Base Composite Squadron. Texas Wing's Group V Commander Col. Frank Eldridge presented its new TX-047 charter at a 5 p.m. ceremony, held in front of the air traffic control tower on the base's flight line, followed by a reception.

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) can trace its presence in Del Rio to the WWII-era Southern Liaison Patrol, established to prevent Axis saboteurs from entering the United States via Mexico. CAP maintained a local presence until the late 1970s when, according to Edward M. Brown, former commander of Laughlin Composite Squadron, the original unit "met at the Del Rio Airport in a building near the old Border Patrol and U.S. Customs station."

"At that time, there were three aircraft in the squadron, a Beech T-34, an O-1 Birddog, and a Beaver," said Brown, who now serves as Civil Air Patrol-United States Air Force (CAP-USAF) Southwest Liaison Region Assistant Director of Operations. "We were one of two squadrons nationally selected to begin testing border operations, and this led to the start of CAP's counterdrug missions."

Brown said that the original squadron was disbanded shortly after a mishap involving one of its aircraft. In recent years, the only local CAP presence has been occasional aircraft traveling from other units in the state to perform missions in support of federal agencies at the Del Rio International Airport.

The chartering of TX-047 marks the full-time return of CAP to Del Rio, with the prospect of CAP aircraft again being permanently stationed in the area.

According to Maj. Leonard J. Sobieski III, the new squadron commander, "Senior member volunteers are the backbone of the organization, performing the majority of CAP's emergency relief missions and providing cadets with the knowledge and guidance to serve as the next generation of emergency responders and community leaders." 🇺🇸



Top: Squadron members display some of the awards they received at the Louisiana Wing conference.

The Pontchartrain Composite Squadron Earns 17 Awards

by Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford, CAP, Louisiana Wing

NEW ORLEANS – On March 9, 2014, the Pontchartrain Composite Squadron swept the awards at the Louisiana Wing Conference in Pineville, La. with 17 wins, including the Squadron of Merit Award and flag streamer.

The Wing Commander's Commendation for Outstanding Duty Performance went to Squadron Commander Maj. William Hunton, Maj. Dennis Eschmann, Capt. Robin Soroe, and 1st Lt. Mike Giroir. The Jack V. Sorenson Cadet Programs Officer of the Year was won by Capt. Robin Soroe.

Louisiana Wing Director of External Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford won the Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Education Award and the Aerospace Education Officer of the Year Award. She was also presented with the Lt. Col. Red Sevin CAP Award of Excellence and the Commander's Personal Award.

The Pontchartrain Composite Squadron won the Emergency Services Ground/Urban Direction Finding Team of the Year Award and the Col Dion deCamp Ground Team of the Year Award. Maj. Dennis Eschmann won the Emergency Services Senior of the Year Award and Cadet 2nd Lt. Franchesca Giroir won the Emergency Services Cadet of the Year Award. When engaged in search and rescue missions, Civil Air Patrol functions as the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force.

Col. Art Scarbrough relinquished command, and Col Thomas "Doc" Barnard assumed command of Louisiana Wing.

NASA Deputy Manager of Advanced Space Concepts at Marshall Space Center Dr. Les Johnson was awarded the Frank Brewer Memorial Aerospace Education Award. 🇺🇸



Top: An F-35 "Lightning" on static display at Luke Air Force Base (Photo: Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons)

Arizona Wing Supports Luke Days at Luke AFB

by Cadet Capt. Meghan Parsons, CAP, Arizona Wing

LUKE AFB, Ariz. – During March 14-16, 2014, Arizona Wing of the Civil Air Patrol stood up an Incident Command Post to assist Luke Air Force Base with their annual "Luke Days" air show. Almost 200 cadet and senior members from across the wing volunteered to assist the Air Force with this event.

Luke Days is the Luke AFB Open House and Air Show. Arizona Wing has participated in Luke Days for many years, but budget cuts forced cancellation in 2013. This year, however, funding was available to support this activity that is a highlight for both CAP members and the general public.

At the air show, there were dozens of aircraft on display, including the MC-26 "Osprey," A-10 "Thunderbolt" (nicknamed "Warthog"), F-22 "Raptor," F-35 "Lightning," C130 "Hercules," MQ-1B "Predator" unmanned aerial system, NASA F-18 "Hornet," and CAP's Cessna 182. Aerial shows included the Air Force Thunderbirds and the Air Force Academy's Wings of Blue Parachute Team.

"It's great to be able to see all the planes on display," said Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Sarah DeWeese, who served as the Bravo Flight cadet commander. "I really liked seeing the Osprey, F-35 and F-16." There was also much to be done. The cadets participating at the air show worked as road guards, parking attendants, and picking up foreign object debris (FOD) along the flight

line. They also served as cadet leadership to assist in the smooth running of the official Air Force mission. This was an excellent opportunity for the cadets to develop their leadership skills. "I'm learning how to take control of my flight as a flight commander, rather than as a flight sergeant," added Cadet DeWeese.

Cadets and Senior Members also had the chance to meet Air Force Thunderbird 6, Capt. Jason Curtis, who flies as opposing solo. He spoke with the cadets about pursuing their dreams, and chasing after them. Capt. Curtis, a former F-16 instructor pilot and flight commander for the 308th Fighter Squadron at Luke AFB, has logged more than 1,750 flight hours. The cadets felt honored to have had the chance to meet him.

Incident commander (IC) for the mission was Lt. Col. Bob Ditch, who had been the IC during Arizona Wing's highly successful CAP/Air Force evaluated mission earlier in the year. The cadets were led by Cadet Capt. Jessica Parsons and Cadet 1st Lt. Bradley Reithman who served as Cadet Group Commanders, each serving for a day.

Luke Days allowed CAP's Arizona Wing to support their Air Force Counterparts. The many volunteers participating in the activity were credited with having contributed to its success, helping keep it running smoothly from beginning to end. 🇺🇸

Below: The MC-26 "Osprey" was a very popular static display. (Photo: Lt. Col. Lori Raska, CAP).



Texas Wing Runs a Pilot Flight Clinic

by Maj. Mike Turoff, CAP, Texas Wing

HOUSTON – On March 29, 2014 at the William P. Hobby Airport, Texas Wing members (most of them members of Group IV) attended the Pilot Flight Clinic (PFC) hosted by Texas Wing Director of Safety Mike Turoff. Each participant earned one hour of



proficiency flying, paid for by the mission if done within 30 days of the class.

Topics covered during the PFC were taken from the AOPA Air Safety Foundation Program and FAA Safety Team web site. Among these were, "Ups and Downs of Takeoffs and Landings," "Maneuvering Flight," "Spatial Disorientation," a review of the Hudson River accident (the "Sully Hudson River Approach") and the Aviation Safety Video production of "Decision Making During An Accident" describing an actual aviation emergency when a cylinder fractured during flight, the procedures followed by the aircrew, and the lessons learned.

Additionally, there was a round-table discussion of operations at various tower-controlled airports and an open forum of any problems that the members had encountered in their flying careers. WMIRS and CAPERS entries were also discussed.

Participants were Maj. Leonard Saddler, 2nd Lt. Karl Seil, Maj. Greg Prewitt, Maj. Tony Martin, Maj. Ray Hischke, Maj. Steve Barati, Capt. Gustave R. Thomas, Capt. Sal Liguori, Lt. Col. Don Fisher, Lt. Col. William H. Beall, 2nd Lt. Bryan G. Casey, 2nd Lt. Volker Schmidt, Capt. Bryan Manka, and Capt. Linda Merryman.

The day ended with a tour of the Hobby Airport Tower.

KLGA/LGA LA GUARDIA **JEPPESEN** **NEW YORK, NY HUDSON MIRACLE APCH**
 AUG 2010 (No.1)

D-ATIS Arrival 125.95	NEW YORK Approach (R) 120.8	LA GUARDIA Tower 118.7	Ground 121.7	Emergency 121.5
VFR ONLY	Final Apch Crs HUDSON RIVER	Minimum Alt FOCUS (All You Can Get)	MDA(H) 0' (You're Committed)	Apt Elev 22' TDZE WET
MISSED APCH: None (ONLY ONE CHANCE). NOTE: After water landing, oversee evacuation of ALL SOULS from airplane. Float via HUDSON RIVER to RESCUE point. Once everyone is SAFE aboard rescue boats, secure passenger list and double check cabin. Captain is last to exit. Give THANKS.				U.S. AIRWAYS Flight 1549 January 15, 2009 Airbus A-320 150 Passengers + 5 Crew 155 Survivors
1. SAAAR PROCEDURE: Special Aircrew, Airmanship, and Ability Required. 2. Duration of flight from Take-Off to Splashdown approximately 5 minutes. 3. Save soggy shoes and wet jacket. Donate to the EAA Young Eagles program.				

SPLASH	FOCUS	THINK	GOOSE
"This is the Captain. Brace for impact."		VISUAL 2000' ±	3200' ± Bird Strike
1200' ±			

Gnd speed-Kts	90	100	120	140	All SOULS OK? Float On HUDSON RIVER To RESCUE Point Check All SAFE On Boats Give THANKS
VERTICAL ANGLE	Best You Can Get				
THINK to SPLASH	Comes Way too Soon				

STRAIGHT-IN LANDING HUDSON RIVER		US AIRWAYS FLIGHT 1549 CREW	
1 ETOPS APPROACH MDA(H) 0' (You're Committed)		Flight Deck Captain CHESLEY SULLENBERGER, III United States Air Force Academy(1973) US Airways(PSA Airlines)(1980) 35 Years Experience Total Flight Hours 19,663	Cabin Crew Flight Attendant SHEILA DAIL US Airways(Piedmont Airlines)(1980) 28 Years Experience Flight Attendant DONNA DENT US Airways(Piedmont Airlines)(1982) 26 Years Experience Flight Attendant DOREEN WELSH US Airways(Allegheny Airlines)(1970) 38 Years Experience
A	VFR Conditions Only	First Officer JEFFREY SKILES US Airways(USAir)(1986) 22 Years Experience Total Flight Hours 15,643	
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1 ETOPS: Engines Turning or People Swimming.

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Above: The New Mexico CyberPatriot Team being honored at the March 8, 2014 New Mexico Wing Commanders Call.

Front (L-R): New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith; Cadet Senior Airman Mark Chappell and Cadet Master Sgt. John W. LeGalley of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron; Cadet Maj. Kyrie Selph of Eagle Cadet Squadron; and Col. Dennis Gallegos, New Mexico Air National Guard, incoming New Mexico assistant adjutant general for air.

Back (L-R): Mr. Kevin Fisher, information technology specialist and mentor; Cadet Master Sgt. Kyle T. Stafford and Cadet Tech. Sgt. Hunter Atwood, both from the "Spirit" Squadron; Senior Member Cael Chappell of the "Spirit" Squadron, master web designer and mentor; Cadet Capt. Lemuel Fish from Las Cruces Composite Squadron; and Cadet 2nd Lt. Andrew Andraka of Thunderbird Composite Squadron. All cadets represented the Albuquerque area except for Fish, who participated in another team from Las Cruces. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)

New Mexico Wing Recognizes Participants in CyberPatriot Competition

by 1st Lt. Teresa M. LeGalley, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - Six cadets from three different squadrons in the Albuquerque area, and one cadet from Las Cruces represented New Mexico Wing in the 2013 CyberPatriot competition that ended in March, 2014. This event, sponsored by the Air Force Association (AFA), now in its sixth season, is designed to introduce high school students to computer security. Starting in 2014, middle school student teams will also be allowed.

Representing New Mexico Wing were Cadet Master Sgt. John W. LeGalley, Cadets Tech. Sgt. Hunter Atwood and Kyle T. Stafford, and Cadet Airman 1st Class Mark Chappell, from Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron; Cadet Maj. Kyrie Selph of Eagle Cadet Squadron; and Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Andraka from Thunderbird Composite Squadron.

The Fly-By, Southwest Region, April, 2014

Cadet Capt. Lemuel Fish, of Las Cruces Composite Squadron, was part of a separate team from the Las Cruces area. Mentoring the cadets were Mr. Kevin Fisher, an information technology professional; 1st Lt. Teresa M. LeGalley; and Senior Member Cael Chappell, a master web designer.

For the 2013-2014 season, the CyberPatriot event was open to any high school team in the nation. Competition is grouped in two parallel divisions: the Open Division, which consists of any high school; and the All Service Division, which consists of Junior ROTC and Civil Air Patrol cadets.

Each team defends a computer network against a virtual cyber-attack. Several rounds of competition culminate in a National competition in March at National Harbor, Md., just outside of Washington, DC. Teams not advancing to the National competition compete in the State Recognition Round, with a chance to advance to the Regional Recognition Round. During the competition rounds – which last six hours – coaches and mentors may only observe the cadets as the latter work to defend their network.

The team represented New Mexico Wing for the preliminary rounds. Although the team did not advance to the Regional Recognition Round, they won the State Recognition Round while representing the wing. 🇺🇸

Below: The Albuquerque CyberPatriot team defends a cyber-attack during one of the competition rounds. (L-R) Cadet Maj. Kyrie Selph, Cadet Senior Airman Mark Chappell, Cadet Master Sgt. John W. LeGalley, Cadet Master Sgt. Kyle Stafford, and Cadet Tech. Sgt. Hunter Atwood.

(Photo: Senior Member Cael Chappell, CAP)





Top: Cadet Andrew Barnes looks at the sensor ball on an Apache Helicopter

Below: Sgt. First Class Marzan explains the functionality of a Raven UAS. (Photos: Lt. Col. Tony McFarland, CAP)

Arizona Wing Members Tour the Western Army Aviation Training Site

by Lt. Col. Tony McFarland, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On March 19, 2014, 60 CAP members, in three groups, representing all six Southern Sector squadrons, toured the Western Army Aviation Training Site (WAATS) at Silverbell Army Heliport, Marana, Ariz.

All groups arrived at the front gate of Marana Technologies, where they were given a short safety briefing and tour overview. Afterwards, they were escorted on base to a dedicated parking area by the Military Police.

At 9 a.m., Army NG Maj. Nicholas Degi, the Silverbell Heliport Support Group executive officer, conducted a general safety and overview briefing, followed by assigning an escort to each group. Under the guidance of these experienced guardsmen, the groups were taken to either a simulator or an informative lecture about the equipment and their use.

Station 1 was the Military Police Raven Station. The non-commissioned officers (NCOs) talked about the Military Police, its role on the base, and their use of the RQ-11B Raven unmanned aircraft system.



They then demonstrated the Raven's capabilities and allowed the cadets to operate the remotes and computer.

CAP visitors learned that the Raven is a hand-launched, all-weather surveillance drone, used to patrol the vast ranges used by the helicopter school. The instructors explained that it could be an excellent search and rescue vehicle. The aircraft, that has a one-hour battery life and a service ceiling of 10,000 ft., can run with the engine off for 15 minutes, acting like a glider. With a normal complement of three Ravens, one could be on station, one launched, and one recovered – thus providing round-the-clock surveillance capability.

Station 2 (helicopter simulators) was in Cobb Hall, outside the WAATS hangars. Both the EC-17 and OH-60 simulators had their motion devices turned off, but the projection alone was enough to give the sensation that the aircraft was moving. The graphics were excellent, and the instructor could simulate IFR and various weather conditions. Other simulators included the Apache and Chinook helicopters, which were placed in trailers outside the maintenance hangars.

Station 3 was a tour of the maintenance hangars for all school aircraft. Visitors were allowed to enter these aircraft and take as many photos as they wished. Experienced warrant officers and NCOs acted as instructors for each aircraft.

The Euro copter EC-17 is a French helicopter that belongs to the US Army, but the parts belong to France. It is commonly used as an aeromedical helicopter in civilian aviation and as an observation and transport platform for the Army. Personnel working on this aircraft have to be FAA certified A&P mechanics.

There was very little dead time between events, as every moment was devoted to actual simulator flying, demonstration or lecture time.

Each group spent two hours in each station, with a ninety-minute break for the noon meal, served at the school's dining facility. Brown-baggers were given access to the break room.

At 4 p.m., Maj. Degi conducted the mass debrief, handed out patches, and answered questions from the visitors. The group thanked him and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Arizona Wing's Sector. 🇺🇸

Below: Personnel working on the EC-17 need to be FAA certified A&P mechanics.





Top: The students were divided into three flights, one of which is shown here as they practice drill moves outside. (Photos: Cadet Staff Sgt. Faith Marquez)

A Texas Wing Airman Leadership School

by Cadet Staff Sgt. Faith Marquez, CAP, Texas Wing

KINGWOOD, Texas – On Feb 28-March 1, 2014, the Cadet Advisory Council (CAC) of Texas Wing, Civil Air Patrol held its first ever Cadet Airman Leadership School at The First Presbyterian Church in Kingwood. The Instructors for the event included Cadet Colonel Brandon Cambio, Cadet Captain Hunter Coolican, Cadet 1st Lt. Kelsey Adams, Cadet 1st Lt. Graham Tidwell, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Kyler Hearn, and Cadet Staff Sgt. Faith Marquez. They volunteered their time to prepare presentations, plan lessons and prepare meals. Cadet Marquez was charged with telling the story. Each instructor brought valuable knowledge to the course: Cadet Adams shared leadership skills and taught the cadets to think quickly with impromptu speeches, Cadet Hearn strongly encouraged them to ask questions and express their opinion in class, and Cadet Tidwell brought along the motivator: chocolate.

The Leadership school was attended by twenty-three cadets from squadrons throughout Group IV of Texas Wing, Civil Air Patrol (CAP).



Left: This was the cadets' second team-building exercise. They were instructed to make something from cue cards without communicating verbally.

Below: (L-R) Cadet Airman Basic Pickett and Cadet Airman 1st Class Trimm take notes during a leadership class.

The students came to learn about what it takes to become an Airman. When lessons first got going, most cadets were quiet and appeared shy, but they were prompted to speak up when they engaged in teamwork exercises and guided discussions.

On the second morning, the first thing on the student schedule was completion of a Physical Fitness Test, making them alert for the day ahead. Afterwards, they were served a pancake breakfast prepared by Cadets Cambio and Coolican. Students would be very busy from then on as they were taught servant leadership, how to perform guidon drill, and how to properly and ceremoniously fold the American Flag.

Along the way, they were given opportunities to show their creative thinking skills in team building exercises. In one of these, they were given cue cards and told to build something together without engaging in any verbally communication. At first they built two-dimensional shapes, such as a neat little fresco pattern and spelling out a name with a heart on the floor. But when they were told to add height to their work, they got fancy. One group built a model of The Coliseum, another one built the CAP insignia, and yet another, a very tall tower. Some made paper airplanes and decided to get height through flight. At course's end, all cadets were given a test covering material they had learned during the weekend. All passed with high marks, each earning a certificate of graduation.

The Airman Leadership School is designed to give lower-ranking cadets some very useful knowledge of Civil Air Patrol, as well as develop character values. It is especially helpful to newer CAP cadets, who normally have many questions. Events like this have the answers. The trainers' goal is to help ALS graduates to continue moving forward as leaders, always taking advantage of every opportunity to learn. 🇺🇸



Right: Col. Dennis Gallegos, Assistant Adjutant General for Air for the New Mexico National Guard, presents the New Mexico Distinguished Service Medal to Maj. Michael E. Eckert.

Below: Mr. Fred Harsany, Albuquerque Chapter president of the Air Force Association, presents the Air Force Association's Award for Outstanding Cadet to Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Alexander J. Salazar. (Photos: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)



New Mexico's "Spirit" Squadron Members Earn Awards

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Within a two-week period, two Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron members received a high New Mexico award and an Air Force Association award, respectively.

On March 8, 2014, at the New Mexico Wing Commanders Call, Squadron Commander Maj. Michael E. Eckert was presented the New Mexico Distinguished Service Medal, an award normally conferred upon Air National Guard general officers, although it can also be given to ANG officer or enlisted personnel upon or after retirement in recognition of exceptional service to the Air National Guard. Eckert was recognized for his outstanding achievements as a Civil Air Patrol senior member, as a senior master sergeant in the Air National Guard, and as a civilian employee of the Air Force safety office at Kirtland Air Force Base. The award cited him not only for streamlining existing safety procedures, but also for his work as commander of Civil Air Patrol's Squadron of Distinction for 2014.

Eckert's award was presented by Air National Guard Col. Dennis Gallegos, the Assistant Adjutant General for Air for the New Mexico National Guard. Eckert has been a member of CAP and the squadron since May 2008. He has commanded Spirit Squadron since May 2012.

On Feb. 27, 2014, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Alexander J. Salazar received the Air Force Association's Award for Outstanding Cadet, presented by Mr. Fred Harsany, president of the Association's Albuquerque Chapter. Harsany is the former New Mexico CAP-USAF state director, the command that provides liaison support between Civil Air Patrol and the United States Air Force, having served in that capacity from 1992 until his retirement in 2012.

Salazar was recognized for his work with Wreaths Across America, his participation in the squadron's CyberPatriot competition, the Bataan Memorial Death March, and the squadron's Color Guard Competition. He has been a member of Civil Air Patrol and the squadron since December 2011. 🇺🇸



Louisiana Wing Squadron Presents the Colors for Local Race

by 1st Lt. Joshua Bass, CAP, Louisiana Wing

BOSSIER PARISH, La. – On March 15, 2014, the Barksdale Composite Squadron Color Guard presented the colors for the Christ Fit Gym Trail Run. Competitors entered in two categories, 3 miles and 7.25 miles. The race started at 9 a.m.

The event took place at the



Recreation Area of the Bayou Bodcau Dam and Reservoir, a project that is operated and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a multi-use project.

The color



guard was composed of Cadet Capt. Matthew Pourteau, Cadet Lt. Col. Tanner Spearman, Cadet 1st Lt. Andrew Koepnick, and Cadet 1st Lt. Michael Lapham, all members of the Barksdale Composite Squadron. As soon as they had finished their CAP assignment, three of them chose to run the 3 mile race. 🇺🇸

The Fly-By,

Arizona Wing AE Team Participates at STEM Night at Anthem Elementary School

by Lt. Col. Peter Feltz, CAP, Arizona Wing

ANTHEM, Ariz. – The Anthem Elementary School continues to promote Aerospace Education through their STEM program. With 47 Aerospace Education Members (AEM) and an Aerospace Academy, this school is truly committed to the program.



There were over twenty teachers in attendance, who set up booths with hands-on projects with participating students. Arizona Wing had been invited to set up the wing's Aerospace booth, a portable display designed to promote this Civil Air Patrol educational program. Although the wing staff had planned on having a couple of remote-control airplanes for demonstration, the person in charge had to work late and couldn't make it in time. However, that void was filled by the Embry Riddle University team – also invited – that brought several remote-control aircraft with them.

Top: The Arizona Wing booth.

Left: The Challenger Space Center display.

Below: A roving astronaut brought along by the Challenger Space Center. (Photos: Lt. Col. Peter Feltz)



The Challenger Space Center and Honeywell were also in attendance, along with the Queen Creek High School that promoted their rocketry and robotics programs.

The Deer Valley Squadron 302 helped with the Arizona Wing display. The CAP group had plenty of balsa wood gliders and paper gliders to hand out, and (naturally) the students flew them all over the cafeteria. 🇺🇸





Top: Students receive classroom instruction during the Airborne Photography Class. (Photo: Maj. Mike Turoff, CAP)

Texas Wing Squadron Hosts Airborne Photo Class

by Capt. Audrey Morrow, CAP, Texas wing

HOUSTON – On Feb. 8, 2014, the Hobby Senior Squadron hosted an Airborne Photography Class in a conference room at William P. Hobby Airport. The class had eighteen students in attendance, all members of nearby Civil Air Patrol squadrons. The visual program was conducted by Maj. Mike Turoff, Hobby Senior Squadron deputy commander. Lt. Col. Don Fisher and Maj. Greg Prewitt demonstrated the use of Nikon D200, D100 and D90 cameras.

Students received instruction on the correct methods for photographing subjects. Each participant learned how to use and took pictures with each of the cameras. Fisher also offered examples of proper settings, exposures and positioning for the best shots. GPS data is incorporated into each picture, thus giving a clear location of the selected site. This is essential to accuracy when documenting disasters and affected areas.

The students' next class will involve taking in-flight photographs from a CAP aircraft and putting into practice the skills developed in the classroom.

Aerial photography is an increasingly important Civil Air Patrol duty. In 2008, in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, Civil Air Patrol members took more than 40,000 high-resolution aerial photographs that were used to assemble a photo-mosaic of the assigned areas. This served to document the effects of the storm and contributed to greater accuracy in predicting the destructive effect of hurricane-force wind storms. 🇺🇸



Above: New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith (left) presents the Civil Air Patrol's Gen. Billy Mitchell Award to Cadet 2nd Lt. Justin Dunn, as squadron commander Maj. Annette Peters looks on. (Photo: Capt. Dan Gabel, CAP)

New Mexico Cadet Earns the Mitchell Award

by Capt. Dan Gabel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. – On March 10, 2014, at the weekly Los Alamos Composite Squadron cadet meeting, New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark Smith presented the General Billy Mitchell award to Cadet 2nd Lt. Justin Dunn. Following the presentation, Col. Smith shared remarks about the life and career of General Billy Mitchell and Mitchell's perseverance for what he believed to be right and true for America's armed services.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Program is divided into sixteen segments called achievements, involving study and performance in five program areas. Upon completion of each achievement, the cadet earns increased responsibility, rank, awards, eligibility to apply for National Cadet Special Activities, and opportunities for both flight and academic scholarships.

The first milestone of the Cadet Program is the General Billy Mitchell Award, which is earned after the completion of the first eight achievements of the cadet program. Having achieved this milestone, Cadet Dunn is automatically promoted to Cadet 2nd Lt., entering the cadet officer ranks. He is also eligible for advanced placement to the grade of E-3 (Airman First Class) should he choose to enter the US Air Force. Cadet Dunn is also eligible for advanced credit in AFROTC, various CAP scholarships, and CAP special activity opportunities. 🇺🇸



Top: A USAF T-34 "Mentor" trainer leads 3 WWII-vintage Yak two-seat trainer aircraft in USSR markings.

Below: The Civil Air Patrol food and drinks stand was very popular with open house attendees. (Photos: Capt. David Willard)

Arizona Wing Helps Mesa Falcon Field Airport Stage its 2014 Open House

by Capt David Willard, CAP, Arizona Wing

MESA, Ariz. – On March 29, 2014, Arizona Wing's Squadron 305 assisted in the preparation and conduct of the Mesa Falcon Field Airport 6th Annual Open House, an event that gathered classic vehicles (military and civilian), vintage aircraft and railroad cars for the enjoyment of all, enhanced by free admission.

Falcon Field Airport Director Corinne Nystrom and Falcon Field Marketing/Communications Specialist Dee Anne Thomas coordinated all the vendors, aircraft, and personnel as they got ready for a smoothly-run open house and a record crowd seeking to experience the airport and its history.

Falcon Field opened in September, 1941 as a military airport to train British Royal Air Force and U.S. Army Air Force pilots. All that remains of the original housing barracks is a fireplace and wall, but photographs abound. The first training sortie was flown on an American-made Boeing-Stearman PT-17 biplane. In 1948 the federal government deeded the property to the City of Mesa as a municipal airport. The city hired a private operator to conduct daily operations, until assuming these duties directly in 1968.

Falcon Field has a total of 784 acres owned by the city, and the air space around it is managed by the Federal Aviation Administration. In 2011 there were more than 229,000 aircraft operations (take-offs and landings) at the airport. In 2010, this airport was named Arizona





Airport of the Year for achievements that included efforts to resolve complaints about noise and safety, largely under Ms. Nystrom's oversight.

Left: 1st Lt. Ben Cowden shows a young attendee how the CAP Cessna 182 works.

Below: Capt. Dave Roden shows an aspiring pilot how to use the flight simulator.

Since Arizona Wing's Squadron 305 makes its home at Falcon Field, its

members played a large part in the scheduling and development of the day's activities. By providing food service, medical/first aid and safety, color guard, static aircraft display and a flight simulator, the unit offered good training for its cadets and senior members. Squadron Commander Capt. Dave Roden exercised overall leadership. The squadron was augmented by the Squadron 304 (Phoenix/Mesa Airport) color guard, whose members presented the colors as the Star Spangled Banner was played.

One of the big CAP attractions was the flight simulator manned by 1st Lt. Mike Miller, 2nd Lt. Kerry MacPherson, Maj. Larry Schappa, and Capt. Dave Roden. There were usually 5 to 10 children waiting in the line all day long, and a few had to be turned away at show's end. The squadron's Cessna 182 aircraft was on static display; squadron pilot 1st Lt. Ben Cowden, squadron glider pilot 1st Lt. Ray Girdler, and 2nd Lt. Jack Greene oversaw that activity. 1st Lt. Cowden showed some of the younger patrons how the airplane is operated, and medical officer Maj. Larry Schappa – radio in hand – was ready for medical emergencies.

Lt. Col. Keith Pierson, who served coffee and doughnuts, found many takers. Lt. Col. Mel Bridges and Capt. Vanessa Urbana – as they have done in many other events on behalf of squadron 305 – prepared food and drink for many, with little fanfare. With the help of Lt. Col. Bridges, event catering has benefited the squadron with its operating expenses for needed supplies to help with unit training.

At the end of the day, Capt. Roden assembled squadron members for a debriefing and to talk about the day's events. As always, there were lessons learned and members to be recognized for their good work on behalf of the squadron and the community. 🇺🇸





Left: (L-R) Capt. Chris Sturm, Cadet 2nd Lt. Matthew Sturm, Parish President Pat Brister and Yvonne Sturm during the presentation of the Billy Mitchell Award.

Below : (L-R) Michael Sweetland, Cadet 2nd Lt. Joel Sweetland, Terri Sweetland and Parish President Pat Brister who presented the Award.

(Photos Courtesy of St. Tammany Parish Government)

Two Louisiana Wing Cadets Earn the General Mitchell Award

by S.M. Kristine Green, CAP, Louisiana Wing

ST. TAMMANY PARISH, La. – On Jan. 2, 2014, Cadets Matthew Sturm and Joel Sweetland of the St. Tammany Composite Squadron earned the General Mitchell Award that carries with it promotion to the grade of Cadet 2nd Lt. St. Tammany Parish President Pat Brister presented the awards in a ceremony at the St. Tammany Parish Complex on Koop Drive.

The Mitchell Award marks the passage of a cadet from cadet enlisted to cadet officer ranks, and for college entrance purposes is ranked at the same level as the BSA's Eagle Scout Award. This CAP award is named after Maj. Gen. Billy Mitchell, who was an aviation pioneer, advocate, and staunch supporter of an independent air force for America.

This award requires the completion of the first eight achievements of the CAP cadet program, the successful completion of leadership and aerospace education exams as well as a physical fitness test. Cadets who earn the General Billy Mitchell Award are also eligible for advanced placement to the grade of E-3 (Airman First Class) should they choose to enter the US Air Force. Award recipients are also eligible for advanced credit in AFROTC, various CAP scholarships, and CAP special activity opportunities. Only fifteen percent of all CAP cadets earn the Mitchell Award.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Sturm (above) is 20 years old and joined the Civil Air Patrol five years ago. Sturm's father, Captain Chris Sturm, earned the Mitchell Award in 1974.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Sweetland (right) is 19 years old and joined the Civil Air Patrol two years ago. 🇺🇸



How the Southwest Region Public Affairs Awards Program Works

Starting with the Jan., 2013 issue of The Fly-By, by directive of Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank A. Buethe, the region will recognize contributions to The Fly-By as follows:

1. A SWR **CAP Achievement Award** for article publication on three different issues of The Fly-By. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.
2. A SWR **Commander's Commendation Award** for article publication on an additional six different issues. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.

Region will issue the certificate and send it to the winner's unit at the first available opportunity. The award certificate will be presented at the first available opportunity.

How to Make Submissions Suitable for Publication

Since The Fly-By is posted on the SWR website, it is an external communication. Therefore, as required by CAPR 190-1, Sec. 7.b.(7), articles must be written in Associated Press Style. If a submission that is not in AP Style is selected for publication, it will be edited to this standard. (NHQ/PA has been using AP Style for all external communications since 2005.)

AP Style is defined in the Associated Press Stylebook (available at www.ap.org). For a brief summary, please see "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell," overleaf.

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

General advice on writing a good article

- Get all the facts right, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- Take good digital photos.
 - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
 - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article;
 - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform and you identify all.
 - **Note:** Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.
- Get good quotes.
 - Ask participants for their opinion;
 - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
 - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
 - **Note:** Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.
- Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English.
 - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "due to the fact that" when "because" will do;
 - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
 - Avoid colloquial expressions;
 - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
 - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight E. Eisenhower. 

Associated Press Style in a Nutshell

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person’s permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person’s grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as “kid.”
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use “boy,” “girl” or “child” but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use “their” for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, “the cadet took their meal.”
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at www.ap.org – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖